

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02930 172316Z
ACTION IO-06

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02930

LIMDIS IO ONLY

E.O.11652:GDS
TAGS: AORG, APER, UNDP
SUBJECT: UNDP PERSONNEL

REF:STATE 164032

1.IT NOW APPEARS THAT MORSE IS HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT DIVIDING THE UNDP DIVISION OF FINANCE (DOF) AND THAT THE UNIT WILL REMAIN WITH A D-2 IN CHARGE AS A RESULT OF VIEWS COMMUNICATED TO MORSE BY MAJOR DONORS IN GENEVA.

2.USUN HAS LEARNED THAT G.ARTHUR BROWN, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR, MET ON JULY 12 WITH W.H.ZIEHL, PRESENT DEPUTY CONTROLLER OF THE UN, AND DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF ZIEHL TAKING CHARGE OF DOF FOR ONE YEAR. BROWN WILL RECOMMEND TO MORSE THAT ZIEHL BE GIVEN A ONE-YEAR APPOINTMENT AS DOF DIRECTOR BUT FINAL DECISION WILL BE MADE BY MORSE. USUN BELIEVES THAT THIS COULD BE A CONSTRUCTIVE ARRANGEMENT SINCE IT WOULD ALLOW MORE TIME TO LOCATE ADDITIONAL CANDIDATES FOR THE JOB.

3. UNDP ADMINISTRATION HAS INDICATED ABSOLUTE NECESSITY THAT DOF POST BE FILLED BY SOMEONE WITH LONG EXPERIENCE IN UN-SYSTEM FINANCIAL MATTERS, PREFERABLY CPA AND WITH FLUENCY IN SEVERAL OFFICIAL LANGUAGES. THUS, USUN
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BELIEVES THAT US CANDIDATES BOGGS AND HUESMAN NOT LIKELY TO RECEIVE UNDP ADMINISTRATION ENDORSEMENT SINCE THEY DO NOT POSSESS UN EXPERIENCE. HOWEVER, THEY COULD BE SUBMITTED FOR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE OPEN POST IN ORDER TO GAIN UN EXPERIENCE WHICH WOULD BE HELPFUL AT LATER STAGE.

4. ALSO ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMAL SOURCES, THE UN OFFICE OF PERSONNEL SERVICES IS PROCESSING ZIEHL'S EXTENSION FOR ONE YEAR BEYOND HIS MANDATORY RETIREMENT ON JULY 31, 1978.

5. JOHN OLVER INITIALLY INFORMED MISOFF THAT HE HAS TENTATIVE INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING WITH MORSE THAT HE WOULD STAY IN HIS POST THROUGH END OF 1979. HOWEVER NEW EVENTS HAVE OVERTAKEN THIS INFO SINCE OLVER HAS APPARENTLY SUBMITTED HIS RESIGNATION OVER TAX REIMBURSEMENT. OLVER ALSO EXPRESSED OPINION THAT USG SHOULD ENSURE THAT HIS SUCCESSOR WOULD NOT FOLLOW HIM IN HIS PRESENT POST AS ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (AA), BUREAU FOR SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, BUT RATHER BE PLACED IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE PRESENTLY ENCUMBERED BY SIXTEN HEPPLING (SWEDEN), WHO IS NOT A FINANCIAL TYPE AND IS INEFFECTIVE IN PRESENT POST. US COULD WELL LET SWEDES OR OTHERS FILL AA POST FOR SPECIAL ACTIVITIES, BUT ENSURE THAT MORSE IS AWARE OF US STRONG DESIRE FOR AA ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE. SINCE HEPPLING IS DUE TO RETIRE EARLY 1979, PROMPT ACTION WOULD BE IN ORDER.

6. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT OLVER SERVED PREVIOUSLY AS AA FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL POLICY TO WHICH POST HE WAS APPOINTED EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 1972. HIS TITLE WAS CHANGED ON MAY 16, 1975 TO AA (OPERATIONS AND CONFIDENTIAL

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PROCUREMENT). ON NOVEMBER 15, 1976, HE WAS NAMED TO DIRECT THE NEWLY CONSTITUTED BUREAU FOR SPECIAL ACTIVITIES. OLVER HAD INDICATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE TO SERVE US INTEREST BEYOND 1979 SHOULD APPROPRIATE POSITION EXIST.

7. USUN RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT TAKE ACCOUNT IN ITS CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR SENIOR POSTS IN UNDP WHICH COULD OPEN UP NEXT YEAR, NOT ONLY REPLACEMENTS FOR ZIEHL AND OLVER, BUT ALSO POST OF ADMINISTRATOR OF UNDP, WHOSE TERM WOULD ALSO END AT THAT TIME. USUN UNDERSTANDS THAT MORSE WOULD LIKE TO SERVE ANOTHER TERM BUT WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT SWEDES AND OTHERS WOULD LIKE PUSH FOR ROTATION OF POST OF ADMINISTRATOR AMONG MAJOR DONORS, ESPECIALLY SINCE RELATIVE US PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION DECLINING. CORRECTION: PAGE 2, PARA 3, LINE 5, NAME SHOULD READ HUESMANN INSTEAD HUESMAN. LEONARD

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